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# Security Council

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## Letter dated 13 December 2000 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement on the signing of the peace agreement between Ethiopia and Eritrea issued on 12 December 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jean-David **Levitte**
Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations

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## Annex to the letter dated 13 December 2000 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: French and English]

## Statement on the signing of the peace agreement between Ethiopia and Eritrea issued on 12 December 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union welcomes the signing in Algiers on 12 December 2000 of the peace agreement between Ethiopia and Eritrea.

It salutes the efforts undertaken by the Organization of African Unity (OAU), and in particular by the Algerian President, Abdelaziz Bouteflika, and his special envoys on behalf of that organization. They have been supported by the United States of America and by the European Union, whose active support has been expressed in particular through the action of the Presidency's Special Representative.

This event may represent a fundamental turning-point towards peace and development in the region and become an example for the whole of Africa.

The European Union recalls the important contribution made by its members to the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) deployed in accordance with the Algiers Agreement of 18 June 2000 and to the OAU observers. These contributions are proof of the Union's commitment, affirmed, inter alia, in its common position of 29 June 2000, to supporting in a coordinated manner action taken for the implementation of the peace settlement.

The Union undertakes to give its continued support to the peace process and to action to assist the populations affected by the conflict. It hopes that the peace agreement can be rapidly implemented so that the two countries can once more, in a spirit of reconciliation, devote all their efforts to development, regional cooperation and the fight against poverty, in which the European Union is most willing to support them.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the European Free Trade Association countries, members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.